

to bedrock of a crater
cleared of rubble and bones.

We look up, up, up
these twin towers of light
until we must shield our eyes
from their source, more luminous
than sun and moon and stars.

What is the source?
Not firestorm of planes
commandeered and exploded
in misbegotten piety and hate.
Not savage burning of
"heathen" temples or churches,
mosques or synagogues.
Not merciless holocaust
of "enemy" fields and forests,
schools and homes and people.

The source of light may
go by different names in
your religion and mine,
yet somehow the twin towers
remind us of two neighbors filled
with the radiance of the Golden Rule.

Neighbor from anywhere,
let us not quarrel about
holy names and ancient cruelties.
Let us fill the crater with loam
and plant a new garden on Earth.
In honor of heroes and loved ones,
let us summon the courage, wisdom,
and kindness to dwell in mutual peace.
Can we not become towers of light?

CELEBRATING THE REDEDICATION OF THE SAN DIMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH OF MALESSO

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the rededication of one of Guam's oldest churches, the San Dimas Catholic Church of Malesso. This Sunday, September, 29, 2002, the residents of Guam will celebrate and welcome the new church building, the patron saint of Malesso, which is the island's southernmost village. For more than three centuries the San Dimas Catholic Church has stood as a center of faith and traditions for the community of Malesso. On the eve of the rededication celebration, I would like to commemorate the rich history the San Dimas Church and the village of Malesso have brought to my district of Guam.

The history of Catholic missionaries in Guam began on June 9, 1671, when the Spanish ship Buen Socorro docked in Umatac Bay with four new padres for the Marianas Mission. The four had come to relieve three Fathers already working in the Marianas under the guidance of Father San Vitores. Two of the new priests, Father Francisco Esquerria and Father Francisco Solano, had come from the Philippines by way of Mexico.

The Padres worked hard in Hagatna, the capitol city of Guam, preaching to Spanish soldiers and lay workers, while maintaining carefully the devoted congregations formed by Father San Vitores. They rebuilt the Hagatna church, which had been destroyed in the typhoon of 1671. Father Esquerria and the other Padres soon were not content to work only in Hagatna, and began to make various mission journeys covering more than half the island.

Late in 1672, Father Esquerria became concerned at the great distance they had to travel

to get to the usual anchorage of the ships, which was the port of San Antonio de Umatac (Umatac). He decided that it would be good to have a church in the southern part of the island which the Padres could settle. Father Esquerria decided upon the village of Malesso, and built a church there under the patronage of San Dimas. The Padre himself carefully attended the construction of the church. Two years later in 1674, Father Esquerria was martyred. However, the legacy of the San Dimas Church still lives today.

Thirty-one pastors have served the people of San Dimas Parish for 330 years. The Padres include:

1672-1674	Fr. Francisco Esquerria, S. J.;
1674-1799	Fr. Raphael Canicia, S. J. &
other Jesuits;	
1800-1805	Fr. Cristobal Ibanez;
1836-1848	Fr. Jose Ferrer;
1851-1860	Fr. Juan Fernandez;
1864-1869	Fr. Faustino Fernandez Del
Corral;	
1870-1886	Fr. Mariano Martinez;
1886-1890	Fr. Juan Herrero;
1890-1891	Fr. Jose Lamban;
1891-1893	Fr. Ildefonso Cabanilla;
1893-1899	Fr. Crisogono Oitin;
1908-1923	Fr. Cristobal de Canals;
1923-1927	Fr. Bernabe de Caseda;
1930-1934	Fr. Gil de Lagana;
1935-1936	Fr. Marcelo de Vallava;
1937-1940	Fr. Pastro de Arrayoz;
1940-1942	Fr. Marcian Pellet;
1942-1945	Fr. Jesus Duenas & Fr. Oscar
Calvo ministered to the people of Guam dur-	
ing the War Occupation;	
1945-1947	Fr. Marcian Pellet (Returns
from a prison camp);	
1947-1948	Adelbert Donlon;
1948-1950	Fr. Julius Sullivan;
1950-1953	Fr. Alexander Feeley;
1954-1956	Fr. Antonine Zimmerman;
1956-1957	Fr. Sylvan Conover;
1957-1967	Fr. Timothy Kavinaugh;
1967-1987	Fr. Lee Friel;
1987-1987	Fr. Felixberto Leon Guerrero;
1987-1988	Fr. Patrick Castro;
1988-1997	Fr. Jose Villagomez;
1997-1998	Fr. Eric Forbes;
Archdiocesan Clergy; and	
1998-Present	Fr. Mike Crisostomo

Nearly 80 percent of Guam's residents are Roman Catholics. This identity has profoundly shaped many of the island's culture and traditions. For more than three centuries, pastors and parishioners have given their time and skills with strong loyalty and devotion to the San Dimas Church.

The reopening of the doors at the San Dimas Catholic Church of Malesso after four years of being closed to rebuild the church structure is especially meaningful to those who dedicated countless hours to coordinating its reconstruction. Hundreds of church volunteers led by San Dimas' Pastor, Pale Mike Crisostomo, devoted and sacrificed time working on the church's Finance Council, Demolition Crew, Worship Space Volunteer Committee, Dedication Committee, Parish Council, Pastoral Planning Committee, Finance Committee, Solicitation Committee, Building Committee, Cemetery Committee, Confraternity of Christian Mothers, Angel Tree Project, Faith Formation or "Eskuelan Pale", Ministers of Liturgy, Sacristan, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Altar Servers, Music Ministry, Knights of Columbus, Maintenance and Landscaping,

and Office Staff, to make the rebuilding and rededication of San Dimas Church a great success.

I would also like to recognize and commend the many individuals who spent tireless hours coordinating the celebration, from those who will prepare the food for the village feast, set up all of the palapas and tents, decorate the church and surrounding areas and the celebrants who will all help to usher in the new San Dimas Catholic Church of Malesso this year. Biba San Dimas! Biba Malesso! Biba Guam!

HONORING THE MEMORY OF KENNETH MICHAEL GRAFF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to 2 Lieutenant Kenneth Michael Graff, USMC, upon his passing on September 23, 2002 while attending Naval Aviation School at Pensacola Naval Air Station.

Lt. Graff was born and raised in Dix Hills, NY, and was a 1996 graduate of Half Hollow Hills High School East. In 2001, he graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, (USMMA), located in the town of Kings Point, NY, on Long Island. Kenneth was revered by all of his peers because of his kind spirit and his overwhelming willingness to help others.

Whether it was in the classroom, on the athletic field, or in the regiment, Lt. Graff excelled in every facet of the Academy. In the regiment, Kenneth held charge of an entire platoon in his company, as well as multiple petty officer and squad leader billets. He was a key member of both the Academy soccer and baseball teams, where he turned in outstanding All-Star and championship team performances. Kenneth was a fierce competitor, a strong student, an outstanding athlete, and a person who took pride in his regiment.

Lt. Graff was a caring and thoughtful person, who could find common ground with any of the midshipmen, from his peers to his subordinates. He was secure in himself and focused on his goals. This dedication and focus is exemplified by his success at the Academy, his decision to accept a commission in the U.S. Marine Corps and his selection to Naval Flight School. These key events show the honor, integrity, drive, and patriotism of this young man.

Mr. Speaker, this is a tribute to a young man who was at the beginning of a promising and fruitful life. Though his life was short, he was an outstanding young man brought up by loving parents, family and friends. We will miss him and the promises and potentials he represented. We need more young people of his upbringing and caliber to enrich our families, communities, and country. My condolences go to his parents, Orris and Kenneth Graff and his brother, Michael John. I salute the memory of their son and brother, 2nd Lt. Kenneth Michael Graff, USMC.